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Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid QMB control number. Application Number 10/699.026 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 11/03/2003 First Named Inventor **FORM** Steven G. Mathena Art Unit 3637 **Examiner Name** Lloyd A. Gall (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC **|** Petition Amendment/Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a **Proprietary Information** After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer **Extension of Time Request** below): **Express Abandonment Request** Request for Refund CD. Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Amendment after a second Office Action Reply to Missing Parts/ List of second amended Claims Amended paragraphs in the specification Replacement Drawings, sheets land 3 Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name Signature Printed name Steven G. Mathena Date Reg. No. 12-16-05 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Signature X12-16-05 Typed or printed name Steven G. Mathena

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Response to a second Office Action Rejection

Application SN 10/699,026

This communication is a response to a second office action rejection having a mailing date of 10/06/2005 and setting forth a shortened statutory period for response of three months which would expire on 01/06/2006.

The applicant has studied the examiner's DETAILED ACTION carefully with the following results:

The examiner objected to the disclosure for not showing a "slot" in Fig. 3 and what the function of the slot is. The drawing in Fig. 3 will be corrected to show a slot 4 as is shown in Fig. 1. The examiner also questioned the function of the slot. "When the reader bar is inserted into the basic key reader, a wafer will be trapped in the slot 4 to enable a reading in the opening 19b. All subsequent wafers are read in the same manner." The second paragraph on page 2 will be amended to provide some of the explanation.

The examiner questions or is not clear to determine how the marks 7a - 7d indicate the spacings of the wafers. On page 2, second paragraph it is stated that the alignment mark 5 (shown in the rear end of the reader bar 2 in Fig. 1) Both drawing Figs. 1 and 3 will be corrected that there is also an opening 19b (previously not shown). The opening presently is shown in a dot-dash line. The line will appear in a solid to clearly indicate the opening 19b. This should answer the examiner's queries. It is believed that the above corrections did not introduce new matter. The corrections merely clarify the operation of the key reader.

Claims 1 - 3 are objected to because of certain informalities. The claims have been amended to remove the noted informalities.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McConnell in view of Easley (as best understood).